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**(54) LOW-HARDNESS THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER COMPOSITION****(57)Abstract:**

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To obtain a low-hardness thermoplastic elastomer compsn. which has improved processibility and degradation resistance and excellent mechanical properties by crosslinking a compsn. comprising a metallocene-catalyzed ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer, a hydrogenated vinylarom. compd./conjugated diene compd. block copolymer, a propylene polymer, and an oil.

**SOLUTION:** An ethylene/6-12C  $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer having a density of 0.8-0.9 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and a ratio of wt. average mol.wt. to number average mol.wt. (by GPC) lower than 3 is used as the ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer. A compsn. comprising 100 pts.wt. ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin elastomer, 5-100 pts.wt. hydrogenated vinylarom. compd./conjugated diene compd. block copolymer, 5-90 pts.wt. propylene polymer, and 52.5-250 pts.wt. oil for rubber is crosslinked with a free-radical initiator and a crosslinking aid to give the objective low-hardness thermoplastic elastomer compsn. Pref., the degree of crosslinking is 30% or higher in terms of heat resistance such as compression set.

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